

## REVIEW OF JAPANESE BIRDS.

## IX.—THE WRENS.

BY LEONHARD STEJNEGER.

Contrary to what might be expected, a careful comparison of a tolerably good series of Wrens from the islands of Japan proper shows no difference between those inhabiting Yezo and those from Hondo and Kiusiu. Henson's specimen is more like a Nagasaki bird collected by Mr. Ringer (U. S. Nat. Mus. No. 96258) than any other one in the whole series, and as far as coloration is concerned the two birds are practically identical. The other Hakodate specimen before me (U. S. Nat. Mus. No. 96256) is scarcely any paler, while quite as dark and brown as Nos. 91365 and 96257 from Hondo. That the Yezo specimens are in no way larger than those from farther south is manifest from the appended table of dimensions.

On the whole, the large series of specimens before me are very uniform in color and coloration, remarkably so when we consider the variability of conditions under which these birds are found in the Japanese Archipelago and the plasticity of the birds which constitute this genus.

But while Japan proper is only inhabited by one form of Wren, I am forced to acknowledge another as an inhabitant of the Kurile Islands, or some of them, though I have only one specimen to base my conclusions on. The great uniformity of the true *fumigatus* series convinces me, however, that the new form will be found to be at least as valid as *T. borealis*, which bears about the same relationship to the common European Wren as does *T. kurilensis* to its southern neighbor. The difference between the two forms is one of size and is sufficiently indicated in the diagnosis given below.

SUBGENUS **ANORTHURA** RENNIE.+ (245) *Troglodytes fumigatus* TEMM.

Japan Wren.

Misosazai.

1835.—*Troglodytes fumigatus* TEMMINCK, Man. d'Orn., 2 ed., III. p. 161.—SWINHOE, P. Z. S., 1870, p. 602.—*Id.*, Ibis, 1874, p. 152.—*Id.*, *ibid.*, 1875, p. 143.—BLAKISTON and PRYER, Ibis, 1878, p. 238.—*Id.*, Trans. As. Soc. Jap., VIII, 1880, p. 223.—*Id.*, *ibid.*, X, 1882, p. 160.—SEEBOHM, Ibis, 1879, p. 37.—BLAKISTON, Chrysanth., Feb., 1883, p. —.—*Id.*, Amend. List B. Jap., p. 56 (1884).—JOUY, Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., VI, 1883, p. 287.—STEJNEGER, Zeitschr. Ges. Orn., I, 1884, p. 13.—*Id.*, Orn. Expl. Kamtsch., p. 293 (1885).—DYBOWSKI and TACZANOWSKI, Bull. Soc. Zool. France, 1884, Extr., p. 10.—*Anorthura fumigata* SHARPE, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., VI, p. 276, pl. xvi, fig. 1\* (1881).—RIDGWAY, Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., VI, 1883, p. 370.

\* In the text (p. 276) the quotation of the figure is erroneous, having been transposed for that on p. 274. On the plate the names are given correctly.

- 1847.—*Troglodytes vulgaris* TEMM. and SCHLEG., Fauna Japon., Aves, p. 69 (see FLEM.).—BLAKISTON, Ibis, 1862, p. 320.  
 1855.—*Troglodytes fucatus* BREHM, Naumannia, 1855, p. 285.  
 1883.—*Troglodytes parvulus* var. *fumigatus* SEEBOHM, Brit. B. Eggs, 1, p. 506.—*Id.*, Ibis, 1884, p. 41.  
 1884.—*Troglodytes parvulus* SEEBOHM, Ibis, 1884, p. 40 (see KOCH).

## Measurements.

Museum and No.	Collector and No.	Sex and age.	Locality.	Date.	Wing.	Tail-feathers.	Exposed culmen.	Tarsus.	Middle toe with claw.
U. S. Nat.:	Henson, 165	♂ ad.	Hakodate, Yezo	Nov. 7, 1884	52	35	11	18	17.5
96256	Blak., 1107	♂ ad.	do	Feb. —	52	34	12	18	17.5
91363	Jouy, 787	♂ ad.	Tate Yama, Hondo.	Nov. 17, 1882	50	37	11	18	17
91364	Jouy, 828	♂ ad.	do	Dec. 2, 1882	51	35	11	17	17.5
91366	Jouy, 835	♂ ad.	do	Dec. 4, 1882	49	36	11	18	17
88640	Jouy, 571	♂ ad.	Fuji, Hondo	July 20, 1882	49	33	11	18.5	17
91365	Jouy, 834	♂ ad.	Tate Yama, Hondo.	Dec. 4, 1882	45	32	10.5	15.5	16
91367	Jouy, 839	♂ ad.	do	Dec. 4, 1882	47	32	10	16	17
109350	Namiye	♀ (?) ad.	Iwashiro, Hondo	Jan. 4, 1886	51	34	11.5	18	—
96257	Pryer, Bl. 2196	? ad.	Tokio, Hondo	Mar., 1877	46	33	10.5	—	—
97980	? 7481	? ad.	Yokohama, Hondo	—	52	—	11.5	—	—
96258	Ringer, Bl. 2817	? ad.	Nagasaki, Kiusiu	—	50	35	12	17.5	17
114730	Ringer, 32	♂ ad.	Aso Yama, Kiusiu	Jan. 1, 1887	46	32	11	17	—
Christianda	Petersen, 130	? ad.	Kiusiu	—	48	34	11	18	17
Do	Petersen, 132	? ad.	do	—	46	32	11	17	—

+ (245½) *Troglodytes fumigatus kurilensis*, subsp. nov.

Kuril Wren.

- 1882.—*Troglodytes* — ? , BLAKISTON and PRYER, Trans. As. Soc. Jap., x, 1882, p. 160.—BLAKISTON, Amend. List B. Jap., p. 56 (1884).

DIAGN.—Similar to *Troglodytes fumigatus*, but somewhat larger, bill and feet being particularly large.

DIMENSIONS (of type).—Wing, 55<sup>mm</sup>; tail-feathers, 37<sup>mm</sup>; exposed culmen, 14<sup>mm</sup>; tarsus, 19.5<sup>mm</sup>; middle toe, with claw, 19<sup>mm</sup>.

HABITAT.—Shiashkotan, Kuril Islands.

TYPE.—U. S. Nat. Mus. No. 96259, H. J. SNOW, coll., July, 1881.

It has been suspected that this bird might turn out to be the same as my *T. pallescens* from the Commander Islands, but a direct comparison shows that they have nothing in common except the size. My remarks in Orn. Expl. Kamtsch., p. 293, in regard to *T. fumigatus* apply equally well to *T. kurilensis*, as far as coloration is concerned. The last-mentioned two forms agree in color, *T. kurilensis* being perhaps a trifle paler on the middle of the fore neck.

Shiashkotan is one of the northern islands of the Kuril chain, its position being 48° 50' N. lat., 154° 5' E. long. It consists of two volcanic peaks about 3,000 feet high, and hot sulphur springs are said to occur. The habitat of this form is therefore not unlike that of *T. borealis* in Iceland.